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TITLE : BIODEGRADABLE POLYESTER

ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To produce a polyester very excellent in biodegradability and having good moldability and physical properties with high molecular weight.

SOLUTION: This biodegradable aliphatic polyester which has as the dominant constituents a polyhydroxy compound, especially an aliphatic or alicyclic glycol, and a polycarboxylic acid, especially an aliphatic or alicyclic dicarboxylic acid or its precursor, contains a polycarboxylic acid having an alkyl group as its side chain in an amount of 0.01-5mol% based on the dicarboxylic acid and/or its precursor and is obtained by using as an ester polymerization catalyst any one of a titanium group metal chloride, oxychloride and oxynitrate, a carboxylic acid salt of the general formula $O=M(RCO_2)_2$ and an acetylacetone complex of the general formula $O=M(RC=OCHC=OR)_2$ (M is a titanium group metal; and R is a hydrocarbon group).

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